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TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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W. W. BOOTH, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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LOOTING THE TREASURY

WHEN the Democratic party embarked on a second term crusade it was with the distinct pledge that the future would be governed by the strictest economy and that, notwithstanding all the inducements to spend money, the followers of Wilson would be found to the front at all times with their trenchant axes chopping down expenses and singing the chorus of retrenchment. This was before election. Before the people were fooled, it might be well to explain. Since the election was assured and the same old gang of war horses got back to their seats in congress there has been feverish anxiety to make the most of the few months in which the administration will have unbridled fling at the public treasury. The leaders have sounded the tocsin of alarm without avail; the president himself has thrown his influence into the gap to prevent the tax eaters from overrunning the country and satiating themselves with the leavings of the first Wilson term. Salary increases are multiplying or the suggestion is coming forward with ever increasing avidity showing the hunger of the followers of the Democratic statesmen, who fear they cannot trust the ensuing congress with a Republican majority in the house of representatives and a much diminished Democratic majority in the senate. The latest suggestion from this vandal horde is to increase the salaries of the private secretaries of the members, who are now rated nominally at \$1500 per annum. The plan is to raise these much suffering young men from their lowly stations to positions where they can flutter in the limelight and make a greater social display than what they have been prone to make during the stern regime of the Republicans. The advance is given as \$500 a year, or thirty-three and one-third more than the pay they are commonly supposed to receive. The work is responsible, if not onerous, but the records fail to give the whole truth in selecting the secretaries as appropriate subjects for promotion. Any one who knows the duties of a private secretary in Washington knows full well that the stipulated salary is frequently a mere pittance of the reality. The secretary of any real progressive and aggressive member of congress would never be satisfied with the paltry pay of \$125 a month, which seldom would meet his personal expenses. There are other sources of income. These are many and they serve to plaster the pocketbook of the nimble secretary with an opulent lining of greenbacks. Every committee has its host of appointees and it is a cold day in January when the alert secretary does not pick out one or two choice positions in committee to eke out the slender sum allotted him for his labors as amanuensis. The work of the committee in most cases is nothing beyond signing the voucher for the monthly compensation, but it is all grist for the family mill. Then there are traveling expenses whenever the committee is called away from Washington and takes the young man along as disbursing agent, for which there is still another salary. In this way the arduous duties of the secretaries are manifolded and the pay increased in proportion, so there is not much danger of the candidates starving to death. The salary of a secretary is simply the beginning and should not be taken seriously as the standard set by members of congress in appointing this most valuable adjunct to their offices. The country can afford to dispense with both the secretaries and some of the luxurious trimmings accompanying the office, and in the hard times predicted by financial leaders it is not likely that the chief factotum of the congressmen and senators will have their allowance advanced on the score of the high cost of living.

COMMERCIALIZING THE CHURCH

THE William A. Sunday Evangelistic Association, Inc., has been organized in New York and the appropriate papers filed with the secretary of state. The objects of the association are to promote evangelical and religious work in the city of New York and vicinity. The incorporators include recognized millionaires, who probably will bring their well known efficiency systems into play with a complete and absolute record of every soul saved by the fervid and forceful oratory of the Rev. Billy. The very suggestion forces a smile from orthodox theologians, who will recall the experiences of the Child Jesus in the temple where He drove out the money changers for defiling the sacred precincts. This movement may be hailed as a step in advance of the old fashioned methods, where it was customary to send missionaries off to the depth of foreign and barbarous countries with the object of bringing the heathen to a consciousness of their shortcomings in the way of salvation. Puritanical ladies and gentlemen may raise their hands in horror and exclaim against this perversion of the disciples of the Nazarene going into the highways and byways with the holy object of bringing the truth to the poor and lowly whose lives were dimmed by pagan darkness without a realization of the hope in the life to come.

The untutored public will like to know how it happened that the financially wise and astute Billy Sunday ever relinquished any of his rights, titles or hereditaments to an organization promoted by gentlemen who have the reputation of being able to attend to their own business pretty effectively without letting anyone else in to share the pie. Mr. Sunday is well heeled in a material sense and could retire from active pulpitizing without losing a meal or having

to waste a wanton thought on the bread of tomorrow. Report has it that he managed by dint of close economy and rigid attention to the gate receipts to clear up \$20,000 as the result of one week's engagement in Pittsburgh. There is no doubt that he succeeded equally well in other centers of population, for the only failure to his credit is the fight on the license law in Massachusetts, where the vote was as strong and consistent last week for licenses as it was two years ago when Billy Sunday had not projected his ego into the game. Pastors of evangelical churches complain loudly that the masses are being weaned away from their ministrations and the clerical papers are filled with inquiries for the reason of the estrangement. The commercialization of the church and the worship of the golden calf may explain why so many poor people refrain from attending services.

BEWARE OF THE CRASH

IT is coming! The sooner the better for the legitimate business of the country. The air is going to be let out of a lot of these exaggerated income earners with the collapse of the war and the thousands who have clung tenaciously to the belief that war stocks will remain in the ascendancy cannot begin too soon to prepare for the deflation. Even admitting that the war is going to proceed indefinitely, there is no guarantee that the American manufacturer of munitions is bound to continue in his gay saturnalia of profit sharing. Europe is becoming adapted to the requirements of the fighting forces and today has enlarged facilities to enable the belligerents to take care of themselves for the remainder of the war. In fact, it is not generally known, but a whisper has been circulating to the effect that the American products are not what they pretended to be and that much of the stuff shipped to the combatants had better been left on the American side of the Atlantic. There has been growing dissatisfaction with the unsatisfactory and slovenly service of the American manufacturers, and the latest act of the United States in refusing to accept short term credit notes has put in motion a long desired movement to prevent the further exports of gold to this country. A clear understanding of what is coming is found in reports from Tokio, where last week exchanges, representing the chief commodities, were compelled to close their doors to avert a nation wide panic. In one day the individual losses were reported to be over \$15,000,000 and many men who made millions from investing in war brides became paupers as a result of the effect on the market of the news from Berlin that Germany had moved for peace. One day's developments showed the enormously inflated condition of trade and that grim chapter may be duplicated here unless the warnings of conservative bankers are taken to heart in time to get from under before the superstructure of speculation comes crashing to the ground. It is a peace proposition pauperized men who were possessed of millions in Japan, how much more widespread and far reaching will be the effects in this country, where the expansion is a thousand to one greater than in the smaller empire of Japan, with its restricted business and narrowed intercourse?

MIDNIGHT MASS ON THE BORDER DEFICIENCY BILL HAS BEEN PASSED

FIRST SERVICE OF THE KIND SINCE THE CIVIL WAR

(By Associated Press.)
 SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Dec. 21.—Midnight mass in a military camp will be celebrated at Camp Wilson here Christmas eve for the first time in this country since the civil war, it is said. The 7th Illinois Infantry from Chicago is composed mostly of Roman Catholics, and the Rev. Father A. O'Hearn is chaplain. Bishop Shaw granted the dispensation for the service, which, it is expected, will be attended by several thousand soldiers and citizens. There are more than 5000 Catholics at Fort Sam Houston and Camp Wilson, and, weather permitting, it will be necessary to hold the service in the open air, as there is no structure large enough to hold one-half of the congregation expected to witness the ceremony, ushering in Christmas.

SAXONY TAKES OVER ALL COAL FIELDS

(By Associated Press.)
 DRESDEN, Dec. 21.—To put an end to speculation that has prevailed for a long while, the state of Saxony is to purchase and own its coal fields. Existing coal fields that are privately owned will be operated as before, but they may not be extended nor may other fields be purchased privately. The coal fields of Saxony have for years presented a rich speculative field. It has been the practice, permitted by law, to buy on speculation, and in consequence the purchase of a field has almost never indicated that the purchaser intended to operate, but rather that he hoped and expected to sell at an advance.

Evidently Greece is not prepared to commit suicide in precisely the way dictated by the allies.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Take home a quart bottle of delicious old port. 40 cents at the Tonopah Liquor company. Adv. 11

MILLIONS FOUND IN DEAD LETTERS

(By Associated Press.)
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—More than two and a quarter million dollars' worth of checks, drafts, money orders and other valuable papers were found in undeliverable letters by the dead letter office during the last year and practically all were restored to their owners. First Assistant Postmaster General Daniel C. Roper in his annual report announces that the dead letter division handled 10,839,980 letters and parcels during the year, a slight increase over the previous year. One-third of these letters and parcels were delivered; 101,485 contained things of value without clue to their senders and were held for claimants; 7,019,436 had to be destroyed and 41,775 were still being investigated. In addition to the valuable papers, with a face value of \$2,503,119, found in undeliverable letters, many contained stamps and some currency was found loose in the mails. The stamps and currency unclaimed, together with proceeds from the sale of articles of merchandise removed from undeliverable letters, aggregated \$52,965, and \$11,000 was realized from six months' operation of a new postal regulation requiring collection of one cent on advertised letters, making the total net revenue \$64,665. Mr. Roper says that the revenue estimated under present conditions for a year would be approximately \$75,000, which would make the dead letter division self-sustaining.

BUTTE MINERS' WAGES ARE NOW \$4.75 A DAY

Butte mining companies have announced an advance in the wages of miners from \$4.50 to \$4.75 per day, effective after December 1. This is done without altering or changing any existing contracts or obligations. The advance applies not only to the mines of Butte but to the men employed in the reduction works and plant at Anaconda and Great Falls. The price of copper is to be computed in the same way as in the past.

All salaried employees of the Anaconda company receiving \$300 per month or less will receive an additional five per cent on the base rate as long as the average monthly price of copper remains at 27½ cents per pound or more.

This is the third voluntary increase in the wages of the employees of the Anaconda and other mining companies of Butte in the past year. The increase, it is estimated, applies to between 20,000 and 25,000 men in the district. It will mean an increase in the daily wages of Butte, Anaconda and Great Falls of between \$5000 and \$6000, and a monthly addition to the payrolls of approximately \$150,000.

COLD WEATHER IN ELKO COUNTY FOR LAST WEEK

Zero weather and colder has prevailed in Elko county for the last week or ten days. The thermometer dropped to ten below zero at Elko one night and other parts of the county report even a lower temperature.

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